

CHAPTER NO. 60

HOUSE BILL NO. 1124

By Representative Curtiss

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1279

By Senator Cooper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 8, relative to authorized emergency vehicles.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-108, is amended by deleting subsections (b) and (c) in their entirety, and by substituting instead the following language:

(b) A driver of an authorized emergency vehicle operating such vehicle in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) may:

(1) Park or stand, notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter which regulate parking or standing;

(2) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;

(3) Exceed the speed limits so long as life or property is not thereby endangered; and

(4) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

(c) The exemptions herein granted under subsection (b) to a driver of an authorized emergency vehicle shall only apply when such vehicle is making use of audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of the applicable laws of this state, except as provided in subdivisions (1) and (2).

(1) An authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle may be equipped with or display a red light only in combination with a blue light visible from in front of the vehicle.

(2) While parked or standing, an authorized emergency vehicle shall only be required to make use of visual signals meeting the requirements of the applicable laws of this state.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, while parked or standing, from making use of both audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of the applicable laws of this state, in the discretion of the driver.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: March 29, 2001


JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 4th day of April 2001


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR